

In the Claims

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (new) A process for producing a flat commutator, comprising the steps of:

forming a metal carrier body with segment support parts;

forming a hub of electrically insulating material coupled to the carrier body;

joining an annular disk in an electrically conductive and strong mechanical manner to the carrier body on a side thereof opposite to the hub, the annular disk being resistive to a reactive environment;

dividing the carrier body to separate the segment support parts and to form exposed surfaces of the segment support parts by separation thereof;

dividing the annular disk into annular segments; and

coating the exposed surfaces of the segment support parts with an environment resistant coating by currentless deposition carried out from one of a solution and a suspension.

12. (new) A process according to claim 11 wherein said annular disk contains carbon.

13. (new) A process according to claim 11 wherein the carrier body is divided into segment support parts after joining the annular disk thereto.

14. (new) A process according to claim 13 wherein
the carrier body and the annular disk are divided in one step.

15. (new) A process according to claim 14 wherein
the carrier disk and the annular disk are cut in combination by one of abrasive cutting and
sawing.

β1 16. (new) A process according to claim 11 wherein
only the exposed surfaces of the segment support parts are selectively coated.

17. (new) A process according to claim 11 wherein
the coating is tin, silver or chromium.

18. (new) A process according to claim 11 wherein
the coating forms a layer having a thickness between 0.1 and 10 μ m.
